

201 W. Blodgett St., Marshfield, WI 54449-2004 | stjohnsmarshfield.org

Mission Statement:

Our mission at St. John the Baptist Parish is to prepare people for the coming of the fullness of God's Kingdom by sharing the Catholic Faith and its tradition.

Parish Personnel

Fr. Dan Thelen, Pastor	715-384-3252 ext. 2
Fr. Arturo Vigueras, Associate Pastor	715-384-3252 ext. 3
Deacon Jeffrey Austin, Permanent Deacon	715-676-3186
Mary Gouin, Parish Secretary	715-384-3252 ext. 0
Monica Trussoni, Finance Office	715-384-3252 ext. 4
David Alcott, Director of Faith Formation	715-384-3252 ext. 6
St. John School Office	715-384-4989
David Eaton, CCS President	715-387-1177
Mass Times	715-384-3252 ext. 1

Masses

Weekdavs 7 a.m. Saturdays 8 a.m. / 4: 30 p.m. Sundays 7 a.m. / 9 a.m. / 11 a.m.



Sacrament of Marriage Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance.

Sacrament of Baptism

Expectant parents are to participate in the Baptism preparation program. Contact the parish office for details.

Sacrament of Penance

First & Third Fridays	6:00 p.m.
Saturdays	Following the 8:00 a.m. Mass

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Those preparing for serious surgery are to contact the Rectory Office at 715-384-3252.

Parish Membership

Call the Rectory Office at 715-384-3252

MASS SCHEDULE

MON 8/21/2023 St. Pius X, Pope 7:00am Darrell & Ruby Brantner Scripture Readings: Jgs 2:11-19	Mt 19:16-22	
TUES 8/22/2023 The Queenship of the Blessed Virg 7:00am Steve Barrett Scripture Readings: Jgs 6:11-24a	in Mary Mt 19:23-30	
WED 8/23/2023 St. Rose of Lima, Virgin 7:00am Lee Parbel Scripture Readings: Jgs 9:6-15	Mt 20:1-16	
THUR 8/24/2023 St. Bartholomew, Apostle 7:00am James Smith Scripture Readings: Rv 21:9b-14	Jn 1:45-51	
FRI 8/25/2023 St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Pries 7:00am Dave & Rose Taylor Scripture Readings: Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22	t Mt 22:34-40	
SAT 8/26/2023 8:00am Joseph & Iva Lang Scripture Readings: Ru 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17	Mt 23:1-12	
Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time		
4:30pm Living & deceased members of the Robert Imhoff family		
SUN 8/27/2023 7:00am Willie & Ann Maurer		

7:00am Willie & Ann Maurer 9:00am Parishioners of St. John the Baptist Parish 11:00am Richard De Jarlais, Sr. Scripture Readings: Is 22:19-23 Mt 16:13-20

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LITURGICAL MINISTERS

August 26th & 27th, 2023

LECTORS

- 4:30pm Jeffrey Schultz
- 7:00am Judy Garfield
- 9:00am Dorothy Flees
- 11:00am Gayle Specht

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

- 4:30pm Jeff Sternberg / Mike Gonering / Katrina Egle / Susan Jahr 7:00am Jane Gerend / Tonya Schlagenhaft
- 9:00am Bernice Mercer / Maureen Karaliunas / Ann Kundinger Chris Nemitz / Al & Barb May
- 11:00am John & Lori Salzmann / Robert & Ruth Richmond

SERVERS

- 4:30pm Emmet Luther / Open
- 7:00am Ava Rootellis / Open
- 9:00am Christina & Jonathan Nemitz
- 11:00am Maria Laura Garcia / Emily Villalba

MUSIC MINISTER

4:30pm	Cindy Penker / Roni Steines-Machtan
7:00am	Cindy Penker / Roni Steines-Machtan

- 9:00am Cathy Heuer
- 11:00am Kris Herr / Adult Choir

Weekday Mass Servers - August 14th - August 19th

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Monday -	David Gouin	Thursday	Lee Alt
Tuesday -	Ray Housworth	Friday -	Mike Spencer
Wednesday	Lenny Kieliszewski	Saturday Kolbe	e & Dominic Landwehr

Prayer Vine ~ *Do you or someone you know need prayers?* To have requests for prayer placed on the vine, please call Connie 715-305-6742 **and** Donna 715-384-2479 (there are 2 lists).

STEWARDSHIP - August 12th & 13th

STEWARDSHIP -		
Adult / Youth / Plate - Parish Improvement -	\$15,181.71 293.00	SB 15
Total	\$15,474.71	i kike
Total to date for August	\$56,665.32	QR Code Scan to Donate

Stewardship Calling "For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable."-ROMANS 11:29 God has a special mission in mind for each of us. He has given us the gifts we need to accomplish that mission. We are called to be good stewards by using those gifts to do the work He has planned for us. If we deny our gifts or fail to use them as God calls us to use them, then some part of His work will be left undone. Each of us has a role in God's salvation plan.

New chasubles and dalmatics will be purchased this coming Fall to replace our current Mass vestments. Donations towards this expense are welcome.

La Crosse Diocesan Family of the Year: Dan and Christy Kitzhaber have been chosen as the Family of the Year! There will be a special Mass to honor them on Sunday, August 27th at the 11am Mass. The Very Reverend William Dheim will represent Bishop Callahan at this Mass. There will be a light reception held for them after the Mass in the Columbia room.

Adoration: In need of a second adorer on Wednesdays from 8-9am, Saturdays from 1-2pm and Sundays from 9-10am. Each moment that you spend in His Eucharistic Presence will increase His Divine Life within you and deepen your personal relationship and friendship with Jesus. Please call Jean at 715-387-0571 or Deacon Ray at 715-207-6085 if you are available or in need of more information.



Choir practice will begin on Wednesday September 6th at 6:30pm. Anyone interested is more than welcome to join! Come share your talent and remember singing is praying twice! Contact the parish office with inquiries.

Schedules for Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Mass servers are ready and can be picked up in the Sacristy. Thank you!

Sept. 13 - Rural Life Day - Marshfield - All are Welcome



The 42nd Annual Rural Life Day will be held on Sept. 13th, 2023, hosted by Ken and Joellen Heiman of Heiman Holsteins, at 11875 US Hwy 10 in Marshfield. The day begins with a 10:00am Mass celebrated by Bishop Callahan, followed by awards, recognitions, the blessing of crops and machinery and a catered meal.

There will also be wagon rides to tour the ridge-top farm. All are welcome to this celebration of the uniqueness of rural life, giving thanks to God for the contribution of rural values to the life of the Church in the Diocese of La Crosse.

The St. Vincent de Paul Conference of St. John's parish is always looking to add new members. If you are looking for opportunities for fellowship, spirituality or helping our neighbors in need, please contact Lonny Roberts at (618) 580-3230. There is a need to fill in 3-hour shifts which you can pick out to suit your own schedule. There is some heavy lifting involved some of the time.

Back to School! St. John PCCW will again be collecting school supplies for our St. John Primary and Faith Formation teachers. They may be dropped off in the box provided in the back of church. Needed: Clorox disinfecting wipes, baby wipes,

adult size disposable gloves, hand sanitizer in dispenser bottles, Elmers glue (bottles & sticks), 12 & 24 count colored pencils, mechanical pencils, sandwich, quart & gallon sized ziplock bags, paper plates, napkins, paper towels, pink erasers, black thin & thick Sharpie pens, crayons 24 count, Crayola twistable crayons, #2 pencils, black & colored Expo markers, Washable markers (bold & bright & classic), yellow highlighters, Sticky notes, 1 inch capacity white 3 ring binders, letter-size 8/5 x 11 cardstock, letter size copy paper and letter sized white envelopes. **Thank you!**

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners: For some weeks now, I have wanted to share the following reflection from Chris Stefanick. St. Augustine says: "Love God and then do whatever you want." While it may initially appear paradoxical, after thinking more about it, it carries a profound message that can lead to greater freedom in our faith.

St. Augustine's words encourage us to place love for God at the core of our lives. When we truly love God with all our hearts, our desires and intentions become aligned with His divine will. Love for God becomes the guiding force that shapes our thoughts, words, and actions. In this sense, St. Augustine challenges us to examine the motivations behind our choices: Are they rooted in love for God, or are they driven by selfish desires?

At first glance, one might interpret this quote from St. Augustine as an invitation to indulge in any act or desire. But it's important to understand that genuine love for God transforms our hearts, making us more sensitive to His teachings and more aligned with His plans for us. It's not a license to sin. Instead, it emphasizes the freedom that comes from living a life driven by love, rather than rigid rules and restrictions.

By placing love for God at the center of our lives, we open ourselves up to a freedom that surpasses mere adherence to religious laws. It gives us the freedom to pursue our unique calling and live authentically, while still remaining faithful to God.

St. Augustine's quote, "Love God and then do whatever you want," challenges us to examine the depth of our love for God and invites us to live a life of faith that is rooted in love. By placing love for God at the center of our existence, we find true freedom—a freedom that liberates us from legalism, empowers us to live authentically, and guides us towards a life of compassion, grace, and service.

May this quote inspire you to reflect on your own journey of faith and discover the freedom that comes from a love-filled relationship with God.

May St. John the Baptist pray for us and our parish.

Fr. Thelen

EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

At Mass, we want to focus on God

When we go to Mass, we want to think about God. This is our

set-aside time with Jesus and we are to speak with and listen to Him because the Mass is the official public worship of God by the Church. This is the way that God invites us to worship Him as laid out in the Bible. Jesus wants us to sincerely focus on Him and what is happening at the altar. When we get distracted: don't get upset, but



say a little prayer – ever so simple – and turn your thoughts gently and peacefully back to the Mass.

Let's pray this right now and every day this week:

Jesus, help me to stay focused on You and what is happening at Mass every Sunday (or Saturday evening).

This week, read how we are to give thanks to the Lord in Psalm $95{:}1{\cdot}6$

St. John's invites all to attend the 2023 Witnesses For Christ Live, Virtual Conference with Mark Hart! On Monday, August 21st you have the opportunity to participate in two interactive presentations: *God's Masterpiece: Christ Within Us* and *God's Master-plan: Christ Before Us*, Join Mark Hart an internationally known



Christ Before Us. Join Mark Hart, an internationally known Biblical teacher to:

- Exhale and take time for yourself.
- Engage more deeply with the incredible miracle that is the Eucharist!
- Understand better what Jesus has proclaimed about this Sacrament of His Body and Blood.

This event is \$10. Everyone who registers will receive a free copy of Mark Hart's book "The Divine Encounter".

This event will begin at 5:30pm and be held in the Columbia room. There will be time for discussion between the two presentations. You are asked to bring a bible.

If you did not sign up, you can still attend. Meet in the Columbia room at 5:00pm! A light lunch will be provided for those attending. Materials for this Conference will be available. Please make checks payable to St. John's and pay at the door!



WORLD-FAMOUS FATIMA STATUE COMING TO OUR PARISH!

The world-famous International Pilgrim Virgin Statue, which has been traveling for 75 years, will be at St. John the Baptist on Tuesday, August 22nd.

On this 75th anniversary year, the mission of the Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Fatima

continues the same, to bring the message of Fatima—the Peace Plan from Heaven—to a world in need. Our Lord told Sister Lucia, the oldest of the three seers at Fatima, that he had entrusted the peace of the world to the Immaculate Heart.

The International Pilgrim Virgin Statue has visited more than 100 countries, including Russia and China, bringing Mary's powerful message of salvation and hope to millions of people. Countless favors and graces have been reported wherever the Virgin Statue has traveled.

We hope you will come and experience the blessings of Our Lady during this special statue visitation, sponsored by the World Apostolate of Fatima, USA – Our Lady's Blue Army. (<u>www.bluearmy.com</u>)

This statue of the Virgin Mary will remain in our church until 5:00pm. You are welcome to make a visit anytime throughout the day!

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS PILGRIMAGE!

In July 2024 the National Eucharistic Congress μ will be held in Indianapolis, IN. This 5 day experience titled *Eyes Opened, Hearts on Fire*, will be held July 17-24, 2024. Speakers such as Bishop Robert Barron, Fr. Mike Schmitz, Fr. John Burns, Bishop Andrew Cozzens, and many more



will inspire and invite people to return to the source and summit of our Faith in the celebration of the Eucharist. In addition to the work being done in our Diocese as part of the Eucharistic Procession to Indianapolis we are exploring the possibility of taking a group from the Diocese of La Crosse to attend the Eucharistic Congress. In order to prepare such a pilgrimage, we would need to know the number of pilgrims that might be interested in joining a group from the Diocese of La Crosse to attend the National Eucharistic Congress. If you are interested in attending, please email mjgouin@msn.com to sign up. Once the diocese has a number of people wishing to participate then we will be provided further information related to costs, travel, and the registration process.

Bishop Callahan's Blog to Young People!

Hello, young people. Welcome back to your wonderful, good Catholic school. We're glad to have you. The talented teachers that we have, the administration, everybody who is involved in the school; tell them that you're thankful and grateful. I also want you to think about the Saints who are with us. The Saints



who are the patrons. They watch over us while we're in school.

Saint Thomas Aquinas, for instance. Saint Thomas Aquinas is one of the great patron saints of schools, and Catholic educators. Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton. There's a great big statue of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton at Seton Hall University in Newark, New Jersey. And she's standing there and she's got this big cape on, and she's standing there with her arms outstretched and she just looks like she's going to give everybody a great big hug. But she is also one of the great patron saints of Catholic education. And she's an American. We do have American saints. It's a great thing to think about. And of course, I would be remiss if I didn't talk a little bit about Saint Joseph of Cupertino. Saint Joseph of Cupertino is also the patron saint of students. He didn't know much, but through the grace of God, what he did know he used well and got other people to love Jesus and to love the Blessed Mother. Boys and girls, you can't go wrong if you love the Blessed Mother. Every single thing you do is going to have some kind of positive impact on the world.

This year, there's going to be a few new things that are going to be going on, and we're going to be talking about them, and you're going to hear them a little bit more in class work—the year of the Eucharistic Revival. When we talk about the Eucharist, you know what that means, especially you boys and girls in the second grade who are learning how to love Jesus in a special way through Holy Communion, through the Holy Eucharist. And as you get older, what we like to see is that involvement, that education, become a little bit more exciting for you so that when you go to Mass and you receive Holy Communion, you are participating in one of the great gifts of God's love for each and every one of us. Each and every one of us gets a special gift through Jesus in the Eucharist.

Now, the other thing that we're going to hear about as we talk about the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist is what we do to think about this great gift. We're going to talk about it all over the place. There are going to be special events that you're going to be seeing happening throughout the dioceses about the Eucharistic revival. But one of the most important things that you can do my dear young people, is to be involved. Getting involved in the mass, getting involved in prayer, getting involved in the scriptures, getting involved in doing what Jesus wants us to do. And that's simple things to be good, to study, to learn, to really put ourselves out and help others to know and to love and to serve God.

That's pretty much what we can say for right now. But I want you to think about how you will respond to doing what your faith asks of you. How are you going to respond to the love of God in your life? How are you going to respond to your parents? How are you going to respond to your teachers in school? All the various kinds of ways in which you are going to be called upon to exercise goodness?

My dear young people, hopefully, I will see you throughout the year. We're going to go ahead and do the things that we do: Catholic Schools Week, the various kinds of ways of coming to your local parish, celebrations of confirmation, and all the various things at which I am present in your life.

So please get ready. And when I get there, I sure do want to hear you from time to time to say Hi.

We welcome these children through the Living Waters of Baptism



Emily Natasha & Eliezer Aragon -Children of Joel Aragon Vargas & Itzayana Aragan Monreal Baptized on August 5, 2023

Mateo Reese - son of Jeffrey & Michelle Alikpala-Zettler Baptized August 13, 2023 Judson James - son of Justin & Katelyn Rothamer Baptized August 20, 2023

Congratulations to

Austin & Jessica Naedler On the Convalidation of their Marriage ~ July 30, 2023

> Jacob & Mary Thompson on their Marriage ~ August 12, 2023

Our sympathy to the families of:

Sally Bremmer / Nancy O'Brien / David Fehrenbach



May the Souls of Sally, Nancy & Davíd and the Souls of all the Faithful Departed, through the Mercy of God, Rest in Peace.

Milestone Wedding Anniversaries in the Parish The attainment of a milestone wedding anniversary entails love, trust, partnership, tolerance, and tenacity. In each instance, there may be other additional factors. Those who have enduring marriages know this to be true. They have followed the precept in the book of Proverbs: Let faithful love and constancy never leave you: tie them round your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. Thus you will find favor and success in the sight of God and of people (Proverbs 3:3-4). Congratulations and God's blessings on these parishioners celebrating 50 or more years wedding bliss:

50 years: Ken & Ann Bohnert ~ July 20th 60 years: Donald & Judy Duellman ~ August 17th 50 years: David & Susan Jahr ~ December 1st

Prayer Shawl Ministry The purpose of our ministry is to offer a symbol of God's love and comfort through the gift of a prayer shawl. We knit or crochet shawls to be given to people in our parish or community. As we knit, we pray for God's blessings and love to be poured out

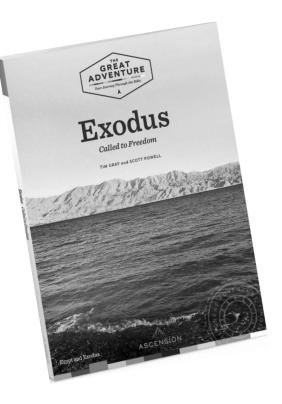
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to the recipient. The shawls are then given, by you, to those in physical, spiritual, or emotional need of God's loving embrace. If you know of anyone who could use this gift of healing, we have a supply of prayer shawls in the Bride's Room for you to choose from. If you have any questions, please contact Lori at 715-387-0244.

> Jesus said,"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Mttw 19:14

> > Thank you for bringing your children to Mass.





Exodus Bible Study Exodus: Called to Freedom Another chapter from the Great Adventure Series with Jeff Cavins!

This is a first time for this Bible Study here at St. John's

Begins on September 10th, the Sunday after Labor Day, and should be completed by November 19th.

Location: The Columbia Room

Time: 8:15am - 10:30am

Cost of the workbook is \$28.00. (If cost is problematic, please do not let this keep you away.)

To register, call or text Judy Garfield, 715-305-2261.

Year 18 of continual Bible Study here at St. John's!

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?



Classes for RCIA will begin the first Thursday of September and meet every Thursday up until the Easter Vigil

unless class is canceled due to some unforeseen circumstance.

Location: Columbia Room located in

St. John's School. Enter through the doors on Blodgett St.

Classes begin on Thursday, Sept. 7th, 2023

Day & Time:

Thursdays - 6:00pm - 8:00pm

Classes are led by Deacon Jeff Austin and a team of lay persons God has a plan for you! If you are curious about how the Catholic Church and the sacraments can help you fully live out God's unique plan for your life, you are invited!

Consider joining the RCIA program if you are:

- An unbaptized adult
- A baptized non-Catholic adult who wishes to learn more about the Catholic church
- A baptized Catholic who has not celebrated the sacraments of Confirmation or Eucharist
- A Catholic who wishes to deepen their faith while sharing their own.

OUR YOUTH





ADVENTURE CAMP

STEUBENVILLE

TOTUS TUUS

Many thanks to everyone who supported in these Youth Activities making them the success they were!





WORLD YOUTH DAY 2023!





A group of 17 pilgrims journeyed to Portugal for the recent World Youth Day gathering encountering millions from around the world. The trading of bracelets, stories, later and faith is a part of the experience. The group was blessed to be very close to Pope Francis on several occasions. Having walked more than 80 miles, the group ended their pilgrimage walking a portion of the Camino into Santiago de Compostela.



Daniel and Christine Kitzhaber Family 2023 La Crosse Diocesan Family of the Year Father John Eisen Council 1799, Marshfield

Dan and Christy, married 29 years, have been blessed with six children: Veronica, Zechariah (Brooke), Jeremiah⁺, Rebekah (Josephine-gch), Catherine, & Elizabeth.

Dan has been a knight for 23 years and has helped with Fish Fries, Tootsie Roll drive, Life Savers for Life, and pancake breakfasts. The knights provided supplies when Dan led the making of over 3,000 chaplets for troops in Afghanistan. Dan initiated a diocesan summer youth camp that has benefitted thousands. Dan led hundreds to the March for Life in Washington DC. He has led hundreds of youths on conferences, retreats & mission trips. Dan led seven World Youth Day pilgrimages as well as mission trips to Peru and Tanzania. Dan led the diocesan men's ministry and served as local president of Morality in Media to fight pornography. He is currently working on a master's degree in clinical Mental Health Counseling with plans to serve as a Catholic marriage and family counselor.

Christy is an Interventionist teacher at Columbus Catholic Schools. She is the Diocesan coordinator of Natural Family Planning serving over 200 couples/year. She initiated the Children's Liturgy of the Word for 3–7-year-olds and a weeklong Vacation Bible School for 15 years. Christy organized a Catholic mom's group that studies church documents and provides support for over 20 years.

Dan and Christy have led retreats for hundreds of couples. They are currently the Region 7 (WI, IL, IN) responsible couple for the Domestic Church apostolate. As a family, they have served the poor through volunteering with Salvation Army, Feed My Starving Children, Samaritan House, COME, and St. Vincent de Paul. The family were founding members of the Marshfield Deanery Perpetual Adoration Chapel. They participated in prayerful protest as part of the 40 days for life.

Thank you, Kitzhaber Family for being the La Crosse Diocesan Family of the Year and Wisconsin State Family of the Year!

